

Bay region. All the historical documents concerning the visit of the "Rurik" under Captain Kotzebue to San Francisco Bay are given in translation and in the original and to make it more complete, the various reports of the scientific material collected about San Francisco during the vessel's stay are included. The plant collections were made by Chamisso and Eschscholtz, scientific explorer and surgeon respectively, of the expedition. The fact that some of the source books in which these reports appear are not readily accessible in the west makes the book much more usable. An attempt has been made to check the plant lists with Dr. Jepson's Manual that the determinations of more than a century ago might be more understandable. Several contemporary illustrations are reproduced, including the plate of *Eschscholtzia Californica* Cham.—ROXANA S. FERRIS.

FIELD WORK ON ERYTHRONIUM

Mr. Elmer I. Applegate has outlined a schedule for field work in 1932 to be undertaken in connection with his taxonomic study of the genus *Erythronium*. The members of this genus are variously called adder's tongue, dog's-tooth violets and fawn lilies and their study has been Mr. Applegate's hobby for some thirty-five years. This spring he expects to make trips into the foothills of Lake County and then along the Sierra Nevada as far north as the coastal ranges of southern Oregon. This summer he projects a journey to the habitats of *Erythronium* in Utah and Colorado. By the end of the present collecting season Mr. Applegate expects to have gone over the entire range of the genus in North America, for in preceding seasons he has followed equally extensive programs of exploration. In 1931 Mr. Applegate collected through Oregon, Washington, Idaho and British Columbia, and in 1930 he visited Idaho, western Montana and northwestern Wyoming.—DAVID D. KECK, Mar. 17, 1932.

OPEN LETTERS

The Hanna Oak¹

This tree of *Quercus agrifolia*, which stands four miles west of Gilroy, was measured May 20, 1923, and again in January, 1932. At five feet above the ground the trunk circumference in 1923 was 27 feet, 6 inches, at eight feet it was 30 feet, 9 inches. At exactly the same heights the respective circumferences in 1932 were 28 feet, 1 inch and 31 feet, 3 inches. The trunk has therefore grown about a half foot during a period of "dry" years with one infestation of caterpillars that denuded the tree of all its foliage.—W. J. HANNA, Gilroy, Feb. 7, 1932.

Quercus lobata in Round Valley, Mendocino County

The Henley Oak which is located on the ranch of the Round Valley Land Co., 3 miles south of Covelo, was measured by the then manager of the ranch, J. B. Bellatti, in 1925, 28 years after Dr. W. L. Jepson

¹A name given to this individual of *Quercus agrifolia* by W. L. Jepson. Cf. Madroño, vol. 1, p. 226.